FBIS DAILY REPORT

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

2 MAY 1986

Postponement of Arab Summit

The Arab foreign minister's failure to set a date, venue, and agenda for a summit conference is a "terrible failure" which expresses the Arab states' inability to confront the United States, Tripoli radio asserted 2 May. The Libyan comment followed Rabat radio's announcement the previous evening that the foreign ministers would attempt to fix the date and agenda for a summit at another meeting in Morocco after Ramadan, which ends 8 June. A communique broadcast by the radio said the decision was made after it became clear that subjects for the summit agenda are in need of "more study, close examination, preparation, consultation, and exchange of views."

Iran-Iraq War

Iraqi Foreign Minister Tariq 'Aziz denied reports attributed to the UN secretary general that Iraq and Iran have agreed to begin direct negotiations to end the war, according to Amman radio. The Iraqi denial, which has not thus far been mentioned by monitored Iraqi sources, followed a Rabat radio report on the UN secretary general's announcement that Iran and Iraq have "provisionally accepted" an eight-point agenda for direct negotiations though they have failed to agree on cease-fire arrangements.

As for the military situation, military communiques cited by IRNA reported further Iranian air strikes on Iraqi positions in the Faqqeh region, inside Iran's Khuzestan Province. Iraqi planes raided Iranian oil-pumping stations at Ahvaz, according to a communique broadcast by Voice of the Masses radio. Regarding the situation in the Al-Faw area, Iraq's VII Army Corps commander asserted at a news conference reported by INA that his troops "completely destroyed" an Iranian offensive west of Al-Mamlahah 28-29 April.

In the Gulf, an unidentified aircraft fired missiles at a Saudi tanker 1 May, killing the captain and two sailors, and injuring six others, according to an official source in Abu Dhabi cited by WAM.

Bahrain-Qatar Dispute

Saudi King Fahd has succeeded in containing the Bahraini-Qatari maritime border dispute in a way that "preserves the interests of the two fraternal countries as a first step," a Saudi spokesman disclosed in an official statement transmitted by SPA. He said the Kingdom will also seek to establish a joint agreement between the two countries covering other disputed issues.

Iranian Delegation's Tour

A joint statement at the end of the Iranian delegation's visit to Libya warned the United States that Libya, Iran, and the "Islamic masses" will resist any "new aggression" against the Jamahiriyah. The statement, which was carried by JANA, also urged European countries to cancel their "aggressive measures" against Libya, rejected accusations of Libyan and Iranian involvement in terrorism, and urged Muslims worldwide to "kindle their jihad fervor" to confront the "10th crusade" being led by the United States.

The Iranian delegation held talks with President Hafiz al-Asad and other Syrian officials in Damascus 1 May, IRNA noted.

Syrian Internal Differences

The clandestine Radio Free Lebanon reported that Major General 'Ali Haydar is under house arrest following his "open criticism" of Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam's policy on Lebanon. The radio spoke of "tension and rebellion" in the special units which Haydar commands.

Southern Lebanon

The army of southern Lebanon (ASL) commander has ordered a reinforcement of ASL positions on the border of Israel's security zone following a "large terrorist attack" on an ASL position 1 May, Jerusalem radio reported. IDF radio noted that three ASL soldiers were kidnapped, five were wounded, and one terrorist was killed in the attack, which occurred in the southwestern Al-Biqa' area. The Islamic Resistance claimed credit for attacking ASL positions in the area in a statement cited by Beirut radio.

PLO

A PLO delegation headed by Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat informed FLN officials in Algiers of the PLO Executive Committee's "unanimous" agreement to the Algerian president's proposal for a "comprehensive dialogue" among all Palestinian revolution factions at a conference aimed at "closing the Palestinian ranks," Algiers radio reported.

Egypt

Dr 'Umar 'Abd al-Rahman is one of 56 members of an "extremist Muslim group" who were arrested in connection with the attempt to "storm" a mosque in Aswan 29 April, MENA reported. Al-Rahman, who was described by MENA as a professor at the Foundations of Islam College in Asyut, has been arrested on several previous occasions because of his links with Muslim fundamentalist groups.

Afghanistan

DRA Revolutionary Council President Babrak Karmal returned home 1 May after medical check-ups in the Soviet Union, Kabul radio reported, adding that Karmal was welcomed at Kabul Airport by PDPA and Soviet officials.

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Karmal Returns From USSR; Met by Soviet Envoy
LD011546 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto 1600 GMT 1 May 86

[Text] Babrak Karmal, general secretary of the PDPA Central Committee and president of the DRA Revolutionary Council, returned home today at about 1600 by special aircraft after medical check-ups in the Soviet Union. He was welcomed at Kabul International Airport by members and secretaries of the PDPA Central Committee Politburo and the Soviet ambassador and representative extraordinary in Kabul, F.A. Tabeyev.

Ratebzad Returns From WPC Meeting in Sofia
LD011830 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 1 May 86

[Text] Anahita Ratebzad, member of the PDPA Central Committee Political Bureau and chairman of the DRA Peace, Solidarity and Friendship Organization, returned to Kabul today after taking part in the session of World Peace Council in Sofia.

At Kabul airport she was welcomed by Mohammad Aslam Watanjar, member of the PDPA Central Committee Political Bureau and minister of communications, and by Petur Vulkanov, ambassador of Bulgaria in Kabul.

New Plants To End Kabul Power Shortage
LD280600 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0439 GMT 28 Apr 86

[Text] Kabul, April 27, BAKHTAR — Big contracts in power industry between the Ministry of Electric Energy of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan and the All-Union [words indistinct] Trade Association Technopromextort have been signed here.

The Afghan side is to be supplied with equipment and materials for building the Mazar-e Sharif Jarkuduk, USSR Konduz and Kholm-Pol-e Khomri electric transmission lines.

A contract was signed for a feasibility study for building the Sarobi-2 Cascade of hydro-electric power stations and for drawing up a project of an electric transmision line crossing over the Panj River.

Cooperation between the USSR and the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan in energetics is broadening with every passing year. The construction of the USSR-Konduz and USSR state frontier Mazar-e Sharif-Kholm electric transmission lines is to be completed this year.

The commissioning of these electric transmission lines will establish mighty centres for the development of industry and agriculture of northern Afghanistan and ensure Konduz, Shir Khan, Mazar-e Sharif and other towns with electricity.

The construction of the Sarobi-2 Cascade of hydro-electric power stations will make it possible to do away with the shortage of electric energy in the area of Kabul.

Afghanistan's biggest hydro-electric power station Naghlu, which increased electricity generation in Afghanistan by 40 per cent, and the Pol-e Khomri-2 hydro-electric power station, the main source of electric energy in the Balkh Province, were built in the previous years with the USSR's assistance.

Further Reportage on Situation at Golden Temple

Gandhi Supports Punjab Government Action

BK011625 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 1 May 86

[Text] The prime minister has congratulated the Punjab chief minister, Mr Surjit Singh Barnala, for flushing out the extremists from the Golden Temple complex.

Inaugurating the centenary celebrations of Anjuman-e Islam in Bombay this afternoon, he said Mr Barnala has purified the holy place and restored the sanctity of the Golden Temple.

The prime minister said sinister attempts by some fanatics and anti-national elements to weaken the country in the name of religion will not be allowed. The Akali Dal parliamentary party hailed the action and said forcible occupation of the Golden Temple by extremists resulted in grave violation of the glorious Sikh tradition.

The Punjab Pradesh [State] Congress-I Committee president, Mr Beant Singh, urged the Akali Dal and the SGPC [Shiromani Gurdwara Prabandhak Committee] to ensure that terrorists and anti-national elements are not allowed reenter the complex.

The president of Jammu and Kashmir Pradesh Congress-I, Mr Mufti Mohammad Syed, said the integrity and solidarity of the nation cannot be compromised at any cost.

The general secretary of the Delhi State Akali Dal- Longowal, Mr Onkar Singh Thapar, congratulated the Punjab government for acting in time. In a statement in Chandigarh today, the speaker of the Haryana Vidhan Sabha [Legislative Assembly] said the action has created confidence among the masses. He called upon the Sikhs throughout the country to extend full cooperation to the government in its efforts to clear such antinational elements from religious places.

The Haryana minister of state for cooperation, Mr Pyara Singh, said the government should lay down a strict code to prohibit the misuse of religious places by antinational elements.

The Assam chief minister, Mr Profully Kumar Mohanta, said persons posing a threat to national security should be dealt with ruthlessly.

The action of the Punjab government in flushing out anti-Sikh, antinational and criminal elements, who had forcibly occupied the Golden Temple, has been fully endorsed at a joint meeting of the Akali Dal working committee and its party legislators in Chandigarh today.

In a resolution the meeting said the action was in pursuance of the mandate given by the Sarbat Khalsa [highest Sikh religious congregational assembiy] held on 16 February at the historic Takht Shri Kesghar Sabib. The meeting strongly condemned the secessionist declaration by the mercenary mafia of murderers and criminals at the behest of foreign powers which are interested in the destabilization and destruction of the unity, solidarity, and sovereignty of the country.

Punjab Chief on Temple Operation

BK011601 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 1 May 86

[Text] In Punjab, normalcy has been restored after the state police and paramilitary forces completed their task of flushing out the extremists and criminals from the Golden Temple complex in Amritsar early this morning.

The Punjab chief minister, Mr Surjit Singh Barnala, has said the state government had to undertake a hurried and limited operation to flush out the terrorists and anti-national elements who intruded into the Golden Temple complex. Talking to newsmen in Chandigarh this evening, he said this operation has successfully achieved its aim with minimum loss. Mr Barnala said clear instructions to use the utmost restraint even on the face of grave provocation were given to the personnel who participated in the operations. In all, 300 persons were rounded up within the complex area, including Bhai Gurdev Singh who was nominated the acting chief of the Akal Takht [highest seat of Sikh religion — fbis] by a congregation held on the 26th of January this year. The chief minister said none of the five members of the so-called Panthic [Sikh religious] committee could be arrested since they are reported to have slipped away immediately after issuance of a secessionist statement on Tuesday [29 April] night.

Mr Barnala said it was a painful and difficult decision for him to send the police inside the complex. But it was taken in pursuance of the unanimous directive given by the Sarbat Khalsa [Sikh highest religious congregation] at Anandpur Saheb. He expressed the hope that the Shiromani Gurdwara Prabandhak [Sikh temple management] committee will be able to administer more effective control inside the complex now as all the intruders have been evicted. He said apart from the Golden Temple complex, some arms and ammunition have also been recovered during simultaneous searches of a few other gurdwaras also. Mr Barnala maintained that the terrorists and extremists had collected a number of arms and ammunition inside the temple complex which they took away while fleeing before operation.

Mr Barnala said today's bundh [strike] call given by the All India Sikh Students Federation has evoked no response at all. Shops and commercial establishments function normally. About 240,000 students appeared for various examinations despite the call for boycott of examinations by some organizations.

Police Action 'Welcomed'

BK010404 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 1 May 86

[Excerpt] The home minister, Mr Narasimha Rao, has reaffirmed the government's resolve not to allow the use of holy places for unholy purposes in future. He was intervening in the Lok Sabha yesterday on the discussion over his earlier statement regarding the announcement of the formation of the so-called Khalistan by a group of people styling themselves as the Panthic [Sikh religious] committee.

The Punjab government action to flush out the secessionists from the Golden Temple complex in Amritsar by deploying police and

paramilitary forces has been widely welcomed. The Himachal Pradesh chief minister, Mr Vir Bhadra Singh, said the action was necessary to maintain the unity and integrity of the country.

The West Bengal chief minister, Mr Jyoti Basu, observed that there was no alternative than to deploy paramilitary forces to tackle the latest situation.

The Janata Party president, Mr Chandrasekhar, described the government action as unavoidable.

The general secretary of Takht Shri Harmanderji, Patna Saheb, Mr Kuldip Singh Bargah, welcomed the action and appealed to all Sikhs in and outside Punjab to unite and work for the unity and integrity of the country.

Several Sikh organizations in Madhya Pradesh have supported the government action against the extremist elements. The Sikh community in Mandi and (Revalsar) in Himachal Pradesh have also welcomed the government action. The convenor of the Bihar Sikh Relief and Rehabilitation Samiti, Mr Surendrajit Singh Haluwalia, congratulated the Punjab chief minister on taking the bold step to meet the challenge of the terrorists.

Two Extremist Groups Banned

BK011639 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 1 May 86

[Text] The government today extended the ban on two extremist organizations — Dal Khalsa and the National Council of Khalistan — by another 2 years. The ban imposed on the two organizations in 1984 expired yesterday. The Ministry of Home Affairs issued separate notifications under the Unlawful Activities Prevention Act declaring these organizations unlawful with immediate effect. Those [organizations] have been charged with preaching and encouraging secessionist and violent activities aimed at disrupting the territorial integrity of the country. The notification says: Both the organizations stood for the creation of a so-called Khalistan, a separate Sikh state.

Day Curfew Lifted

BK011555 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 1 May 86

[Text] In Amritsar, curfew was relaxed for 3 hours from 1700 today. The relaxation period passed off peacefully. Day curfew will be completely lifted from 0400 tomorrow morning. However, night curfew from 2000 to 0400 will continue until further orders.

Commentator Welcomes Bhutto Caution on Khalistan

BK011415 Delhi General Overseas Service in English 1340 GMT 1 May 86

[Political commentator S.C. Bhatt commentary: "Words of Wisdom"]

[Text] The Pakistan president, General Ziaul Haq, and the prime minister, Mr Mohammad Khan Junejo, have both turned down the demand for an early election to the National Assembly. They have pointed out that the assembly was elected a little over a year ago when Mr Junejo became the first civilian head of government after nearly 8 years. The House has a life of 5 years, and the next election is thus not due before 1990.

The demand for a fresh midterm poll has been powerfully voiced by Miss Benazir Bhutto, leader of the Pakistan People's Party [PPP] who is now back home from London. Miss Bhutto has received tumultuous welcome from the people of Punjab and the Northwest Frontier Province of Pakistan in the past couple of weeks since her return home. Unprecedented crowds have turned up everywhere she went to express their joy on her return to political activity and leadership of the PPP. The party was in power under her father, the late Mr Zulfiqar Ali Bhutto, before his government was overthrown by the military. It is during her easy march from Lahore where she first landed from abroad to Peshawar that she made the demand for a fresh election. The election held last year was on a nonparty basis in which the parties represented in the MRD — Movement for Restoration of Democracy — did not take part. Only the Muslim League faction led by Mr Junejo and the Pir of Pagara was represented in the contest through its nominees who were, however, not allowed to run on a party basis and not allowed to campaign along the recognized democratic line. Since then, there has been a continuous debate in Pakistan, mute at first, but becoming loud and clear as time went on for a fresh election to the National Assembly.

Individuals coming together after the election to form a group or groups cannot be an answer to the democratic process of political parties putting forward their program in advance and the people making their choice on the basis of program and platform. So, Miss Benazir Bhutto is not the only one, nor indeed the first one, to demand a fresh democratic election to the National Assembly of Pakistan so that a truly representative government could emerge out of it. The latest to speak in support of this demand is the acting speaker of the House himself. It remains to be seen how Miss Bhutto will pursue the matter and what kind of relationship her party will now have with the other parties in the MRD and outside it. This is an important issue, since the MRD allies will all try to retain their individual identity while the PPP will try to assert its preeminent position.

Observers are generally agreed that so far the young leader of the PPP has conducted herself with dignity and firmness, shrewdness, and political sagacity. She has not allowed the popular enthusiasm to go out of control and the authorities have also demonstrated restraint and not interfered with her activities or the gathering of crowds.

Her remarks on the issue of the Pakistani Government's attitude toward the terrorist activities in the Punjab state in India are of special significance. It is well-known that a small section of the Sikhs who have been indulging in violent activities have been receiving support and sympathy from Pakistan. Details of such support have been given in India's Parliament by the minister of state for internal security, Mr Arun Nehru, and the matter has been taken up more than once with the Islamabad authorities who have, of course, denied any involvement. Facts speak for themselves, and dozens of captured terrorists have admitted having received training and arms in Pakistan. It is in this context

that Miss Bhutto uttered words of wisdom and caution for her government and people that they should not be involved with the demand for a so-called Khalistan, an independent Sikh state. Not only the Pakistani Government but the media in that country have evinced keen interest and played up the so-called Khalistan supporters.

Miss Bhutto's words are as much addressed to them as to the Zia regime. She particularly cautioned her countrymen against the implications of the demand for Khalistan. As she said, Lahore is the focal point of any talk of Khalistan, since Lahore was the capital of the independent kingdom of Sikh king, Maharaja Ranjit Singh.

Here is some food for thought for the government in Islamabad and for the Pakistani media.

Gandhi Orders Payments to Delhi Riot Victims

BK301005 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 30 Apr 86

[Text] The prime minister, Mr Rajiv Gandhi, has given directions to dispose of the claims and compensation cases of the Delhi riot [which flared up following Mrs Indira Gandhi's assassination in 1984] victims by the end of next month. Cases of victims in the rest of the country will be disposed of by the end of June.

An official spokesman said in New Delhi today that the government has been examining the rehabilitation cases of the victims of November 1984 riots and has held several meetings in this regard.

Regarding applications for granting credit facilities by the banks to the victims for starting new enterprises, the spokesman said 16,384 applications were received from various parts of the country. Fifty-three crore rupees have been sanctioned in 10,451 cases. Only 222 cases are pending while the rest have been rejected. The spokesman said the National Council of Applied Economic Research was asked to go into 5,354 rejected cases. In its report it found out that one-third of the rejected applicants showed lack of interest or were getting credit facilities from other banks or institutions. Referring to the package of concessions announced by the Reserve Bank of India which will be ending on the 30th of June this year, the spokesman said these concessions would continue till the 30th of June next year. The Reserve Bank of India will also announce a new set of instructions to further liberalize these facilities.

11 Killed in Uttar Pradesh Police Shooting

BK301559 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 30 Apr 86

[Text] In Uttar Pradesh, 11 persons were killed and about 15 injured today when police had to open fire to contain a violent mob in Barabanki. An official spokesman told newsmen in Lucknow today that the mob indulged in heavy brickbatting, injuring in addition the superintendent of police and three constables seriously. The police lathi [baton] charged and lobbed teargas shells in an effort to control the situation. When it failed to disperse the unruly crowd, the police finally opened fire. The spokesman said that the situation is under control. The spokesman said 10,000 people courted arrest today in the state in connection with a disputed religious place.

SRI LANKA

Security Minister: 105 Dead in Tamil Clashes

BK021139 Colombo International Service in English 1045 GMT 2 May 86

[Text] The national security minister, Lalith Athulathmudali, puts the death toll in the fighting between the two major Tamil terrorist groups in the north at over 100. He said that 105 terrorists and several civilians have died in the clashes so far. The majority of the terrorists are members of the Tamil Eelam Liberation Organization. The other group involved in the fighting is the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam.

Authorative sources told LANKA PUWATH that 40 of the dead were civilians who had been caught up in the cross fire. They also said that the terrorists were now burning the bodies to prevent identification.

Attempts were also being made to cut off communications between Jaffna and the rest of the island in order to blackout news about the war between the two terrorist factions. Yesterday, the government said it would provide protection for the terrorists who wished to surrender in view of the threat posed to their lives.

A communique issued by the government said that many lives had already been lost in the fighting, and that dozens had been injured. It pointed out that it was ironical that among those killed or wounded were civilians who had nothing to do with any of the terrorist group.

Meanwhile, all coordinating officers in the north and the east had been instructed by the government to provide adequate security for the people.

Reports from India say that the Indian Government is trying to help in bringing an end to the bitter fighting between the two terrorist groups.

Head of Indian Delegation Denies Daily's Accusation

BK020949 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 2 May 86

[Text] In Sri Lanka, the visiting Indian delegation has denied a report published in a Colombo daily. The report said that its leader, the minister of state for personnel [and administrative reforms], Mr P. Chidambaram, had told Sri Lankan opposition leader, Mr Anura Bandaranaike, that India cannot ask the Sri Lankan militants to leave the country now because of Indian public opinion.

The spokesman of the delegation in a statement in Colombo today said that the entire report in the daily, *THE ISLAND*, is inaccurate. He said the delegation is surprised the that an exchange of a political level has been publicized with such scant respect for facts.

Reportage on Velayati's Visit to Libya, Syria

JANA: Joint Statement Issued

LD011253 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1130 GMT 1 May 86

[Text] Tripoli, 1 May (JANA) — A joint statement was issued today in Tripoli and Tehran at the end of the visit of the two brothers 'Ali Akbar Velayati, the foreign minister, and Mohsen Rafiqdust, the minister of the revolutionary guards of the Islamic Republic of Iran to the Great Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah [SPLAJ]. The following is the text of the statement:

A delegation from the Islamic Republic of Iran consisting of the brothers: Dr 'Ali Akbar Velayati, the foreign minister, and Mohsen Rafiqdust, the minister of revolutionary guards, accompanied by a politico-military delegation, paid a visit to the SPLAJ from 28 to 30 April 1986 to express the solidarity and the support of the Islamic Iranian revolution and the Iranian people for the Jamahiriyah people against the failed American aggression.

The delegation visited the sites of the bombing of the civilian quarters and inspected the harm caused by the treacherous aggression to children, women, and the aged. The delegation also saw for itself the debris of the planes shot down by the Libyan air defenses, proving the steadfastness and efficacy of the Libyan Arab resistance, which confronted the aggression with valour and determination.

Out of the responsibilities of Libya and Iran as two Islamic revolutions for supporting the Arab and Islamic masses, and for checking the 10th crusading campaign waged by the United States and its allies, the two sides affirm the following:

1. The American aggression on the Jamahiriyah is nothing more than a 10th crusading war led by the United States and Europe and the Zionist enemy against Islam and the Muslims. This is clearly evident by the statement of Reagan at the start of the aggression that "the raids on Libya were directed against Al-Qadhdhafi in his capacity as an Islamic extremist." This statement affirms the objectives and dimensions of the crusading aggression.

2. This tenth crusading campaign will, with full force, be confronted by Libya and Iran, which will mobilize one billion Muslims and embroil them in this battle (?in defense) of their fate, sanctity, and their existence. If this war is waged, it will be an all-out war and not confined to Libya and Iran. It will stretch from the Eastern part of the Muslim world to its Western part.

The Islamic revolutions in Libya and Iran are able to lead the Muslims in confronting this crusading campaign. Proceeding from this, the two sides are warning America and Europe against the repercussions of this campaign. They stress that just as when the Muslims won the previous crusading war, the Islamic masses will be able to achieve victory in the tenth crusading war. When Libya and Iran are stressing this, they mean what they are saying.

3. The two sides warn America against any new aggression on the Jamahiriyah and stress that any aggression against the Jamahiriyah will be resisted by Libya and Iran, and by the Islamic masses throughout the Islamic world. They also warn the European countries against any submission to American terrorism and threats. These countries should cancel the aggressive measures which they have taken against Libya. Otherwise, they will be held responsible for the consequences. At the same time, the industrialized countries will shoulder any consequences resulting from imposing political and economic measures against Libya under American pressure and terrorism.

4. Libya and Iran reject the accusation of terror and confirm that Reagan and some of his allies are criminals and killers of children, and that the Black House is the bastion of official terror in the world, and that the Islamic masses are the victims of the American-Atlanticist-Zionist terror, which is represented in political, economic, informationist, psychological, and military terror, and confirmed by the starvation imposed on these masses, and that in confrontation of this terror the whole Islamic land will erupt like a volcano in order to destroy the supports of aggression and its perpetrators.

5. The Zionist-American Marshall plan that was promoted by the Zionist enemy and America, and that is today adopted by the industrial states, is nothing but another crusade in an economic form. It is a plan being financed by the funds of the Arab and Islamic oil, and America has resorted to it after its plans for the confrontation and subjugation of the Islamic popular revolutions failed.

This imperialist-Zionist plan is aimed at the tightening of control over the region and will end up making it subordinate to America, and this is another economic crusade working for the economic invasion of the region and subjecting it to the influence of America and its allies, and hindering the growth and escalation of revolution in it.

6. The Islamic masses all over the Islamic world, from East to West, are requested to kindle their Jihad fervor in order to confront the 10th crusade being led by America and supported by Europe and the Zionist enemy, because the target of this campaign is their religion, sanctity, civilization, existence, and resources. In response to this campaign, the Islamic masses should not accept any restriction or custodianship which prevents them from carrying out their sacred duty: Jihad, revolutiuon and martyrdom.

7. The Libyan side confirms its principled attitudes to the war imposed by the fascist regime in Iraq on the Islamic Republic of Iran. Also, the Iranian side confirms its respect for the sovereignty of neighboring Arab states, and denies any expansionist ambitions in the land of Iraq or others, and adheres to the respect of the will of the Muslim Arab people in Iraq to determine its future by itself in accordance with its political, social, and ideological choices. Tripoli, 20 Sh'aban 1395 AH, corresponding to 30 April 1986

IRNA Reports Joint Communique

LD011542 Tehran IRNA in English 1534 GMT 1 May 86

[Text] Tripoli, May 1, IRNA — Iran and Libya issued a joint communique Thursday calling for Muslim solidarity in condem

nation of 15 April U.S. air attack on Libyan cities. The communique was issued at the end of a three-day visit by Iranian Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati to Tripoli.

"American aggression on the Libyan republic was nothing but the tenth crusade led by America and the Zionist enemy against Islam and the Muslims" the communique said. Both Libya and the Islamic republic of Iran hold anti-imperialist and anti-Zionist foreign policies and call for the political solidarity of Muslim countries.

Velayati on a tour of Iran's two Arab allies, Syria and Libya, had earlier visited residential areas destroyed in the U.S. bombing run.

"Libya and Iran will use all their resources to confront the tenth crusade and to mobilize the one billion Muslims in defense of their religion and independence" the communique said. It warned European countries of "accepting American pressure and terrorism" and called for cancellation of "criminal measures adopted against Libya."

The two countries also criticized U.S. economic strategy in the Middle East for aiming to bring political developments of the region under its hegemony. "The Zionist-American Marshal Plan that is to be implemented by industrial countries is simply the economic face of the crusade" said the communique. "The plan is supported by the oil money of Arab Muslim countries and adopted by America to defeat popular Islamic revolutions" it added. "Zionists and Americans plan to strengthen their influence and hegemony in the region and the (Marshall) Plan is an economic aggression to create difficulties in the development of liberation movements" it said.

Libya also expressed its support for Iran and war against Iraq and called for the fall of the Baghdad regime.

Interviewed on Visit

LD020928 Tehran IRNA in English 0910 GMT 2 May 86

[Text] Tehran, May 2, IRNA — Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati and Islamic Revolution's Guards Corps Minister Mohsen Rafiqdust returned here Friday morning from a four day visit to Libya and Syria.

In an interview at the airport here, Velayati said the trip took place under circumstances that there were pressures from the U.S. side upon friendly countries of Libya and Syria. "It was essential to closely discuss these plots and their repercussions with the leaders of these countries and consult ways to counter them," the foreign minister said.

He said the U.S. had fortunately failed in its attempts to weaken the morale of the Libyan people. "We saw for ourselves that the determination of the Libyan people in their fight against imperialism has not been damaged and that the recent U.S. attack on Libya has proved a total failure for America," he said.

Velayati also said that he had submitted a message from Iran's President 'Ali Khamene'i to Col. Mu'ammar al-Qadhdahfi and Hafiz al-Asad during the talks on the regional stance against the conspiracies of global oppressors.

Calls Talks 'Constructive'

GF020622 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT 2 May 86

[Text] Foreign Minister Velayati, who headed a high-level delegation to the countries of Libya and Syria, returned to Tehran this morning. Upon his arrival in Tehran, Mr Velayati spoke to our correspondent on the details of his visit to Libya and Syria, which we will now hear:

[Begin recording] [Unidentified correspondent]: In view of the pressure exerted by the United States against Libya in particular, and also against Syria, can you please tell us about the significance of the visit of the high-level delegation from the Islamic Republic of Iran to these countries under these circumstances?
[Velayati]: In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. As you have mentioned, the visit of this delegation took place under circumstances in which the United States and its allies exerted immense pressure on Libya in particular, and to a lesser degree on Syria. It was essential that we viewed the situation firsthand in Tripoli and consulted with our Libyan brothers to discuss ways and means of counteracting such conspiracies. Fortunately, the morale of our Libyan brothers — the people and the government — has been very high and we had very positive and constructive talks on the subject.

The actual objective of the U.S. aggression was to shatter the morale of our brothers in Libya — that is, the war was actually psychological and propagandistic. I should state that they were defeated in their purpose, because the morale of the Libyans is very high and there is no weakening in their resolve to combat imperialism. Similarly, we had meetings with our Syrian brothers. We conveyed President Khamene'i's message to Colonel al-Qadhdhafi and Mr Hafiz al-Asad. All in all, in the two countries, what we found common between them was the strong resolve to continue along the firm path they have trod until now.

[Correspondent] What is your opinion of the efforts of the heads of the Arab states?
[Velayati] Of course, some Arab states — that is, those who are the real friends of Libya and Syria — wish to convene this session to promote a sort of coordination and cooperation among our friends in these countries against such instigation. Other countries sought to take unfair advantage of the situation. Instead of tackling the actual task — the real objective, to combat the United States — they digressed by proposing other issues. These were summarily rejected by our brothers in the progressive Arab group who were aware of these attempts to digress from these issues. An emergency meeting of the Arab League had been called for this specific purpose and those who wished to see it fail recommended peripheral issues which would obviously eclipse the main problem, the U.S. attack on Libya. Perhaps some countries were not too disinclined over the failure to achieve this objective. We are optimistic that the true friends and supporters of Libya and Syria in the Arab community will be successful in steering the course of these sessions in the proper direction. We also had discussions with our friends in this regard and are quite

hopeful that the trend of the political matters at the Arab summit will flow in a direction that will be advantageous and beneficial to the Arab community. [end recording]

Majlis Speaker Condemns Failure To Hold Arab Summit

LD021253 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 2 May 86

[Text] Coincident with the anniversary of the martyrdom of the great teacher of Islam and distinguished philosopher, martyr professor Mortaza Motahhari and with Teacher Day, politico-religious ceremonies of Friday prayers were held throughout the country today.

The citizens of Tehran present at Tehran University and surrounding thoroughfares also performed Friday prayers today under the imamate of Hojjat ol-Eslam val-Moslemin Hashemi-Rafsanjani. The Tehran Friday prayers ceremony today took place in the presence of an independent Basij brigade ready to leave for the fronts from the central province, a group of Sunni and Shi'a ulema from Lebanon, a visiting Saharan delegation and 800 of the participants in the ideological seminar of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps.

Opening his second Friday prayers sermon, Hojjat ol-Eslam val-Moslemin Hashemi-Rafsanjani used the occasion of the anniversary of the martyr professor Morteza Motahhari and Teacher Day to pay tribute to the valuable services of that dear martyr as a teacher whose lasting works will solve many of society's current problems and those of our future generations. He referred to the presence of more than 50 divisions [as heard] of workers on Labor Day and said: The declaration that the workers throughout the country are fully ready to go to the battlefronts to demonstrate to the world that our workers and oppressed are alert and faithful to the revolution. They have been able, in conditions stemming from the war, to keep the country's factories going.

The Majlis speaker later paid tribute to Teacher Day and stressed: Our nation places great value on knowledge, teachers, school, university, learning and training. Our teachers at all levels should be among the dearest sections of society. Hojjat ol-Eslam val-Moslemin Hashemi-Rafsanjani later noted the fact that since the revolution, some 25,000 schools had been built throughout the country and that more than 10 million pupils and hundreds of thousands of students are currently acquiring knowledge and studing throughout the country. He called upon the people to help the government in securing the resources needed for the educational sector at all levels.

The imam's representative to the Supreme Defense Council then turned to the problems of the Islamic world and strongly condemned the Islamic Arab states' inability to convene an Arab summit. He continued: The 250-million-strong American superpower attacked a 3-million-strong Libyan state. And yet Islamic Arab states find themselves unable to convene a summit conference to find a remedy in the face of that aggression. Some of their leaders cunningly assert that should there be a conference, it ought to be held in Morocco and should debate the Iran-Iraq war as well. One must wonder why they want the conference to be held in Morocco — a country which is in America's pocket. They place their oil at the disposal of Western plunderers at cost price. Unfortunately, we also have the rulers of the Arab world to contend with.

In the imposed war America wants to impose a cease-fire on us which is worse than the war itself -- so that Iran and Iraq will expend all their resources on the war -- and to make sure that there will always be a rift in the Arab world to prevent them from convening a conference. The imam's representative to the Supreme Defense Council stated: The only salvation in the imposed war lies in eliminating the Iraqi Ba'th Party from the region, and ensuring Islam's victory and the defeat of blasphemy. Our nation would not be satisfied with anything less. Our leader has stated this right from the start. Only with the cooperation of the two Islamic nations, Iran and Iraq, can the ground be prepared for solving the problems of the Muslim peoples of the region and of the Islamic world.

In his first Friday prayers sermon in Tehran today, Hojjat ol-Eslam Hashemi-Rafsanjani continued his argument concerning social justice from the standpoint of Islam. Regarding the matter of perfunctory observance of Islamic dress which some people still fail to observe 7 years after the revolution, he said: The Supreme Judicial Council has drafted a bill under which, when passed by the Majlis, such persons will be sent to rehabilitation and training camps at their own expense, because the government will not foot the bill. Hojjat ol-Eslam val-Moslemin Hashemi-Rafsanjani emphasized: With such a law we would no longer tolerate a group of whimsical slobs toying with the interests of society in order to weaken the family.

Khamene'i States Global Powers 'Feel in Danger'

LD011333 Tehran IRNA in English 1315 GMT 1 May 86

[Text] Tehran, May 1, IRNA — President 'Ali Khamene'i said here Thursday that globe's arrogant powers seriously feel in danger since the storm of the Islamic Revolution and the great victories recently achieved in the battlefronts might ruin their interests. President Khamane'i made his statement in a ceremony marking the anniversary of martyrdom of Ayatollah Morteza Motahhari as well as day of teacher. He was addressing three thousand teachers and university students from teacher training centers.

"Global arrogance is highly concerned about the storm of the Islamic Revolution whereas Third World nations happily respects the victories of the revolution" he said. "Deprived people are assured that the Islamic Republic will achieve success vis-a-vis the U.S. plots."

Khamene'i stated that various classes of the nation are prepared to participate in the Iraqi imposed-war fronts and "the future of the war is bright as a result of the preparedness of the people." "Participation of the people has completely ruined the expectations of the globe's arrogant powers," he said.

The president predicted that Iran's Muslim nation will succeed in the way by the end of current year. "This would be the victory of Islam and the Koran."

Musavi on Opposition Groups, Economy, United States

LD021151 Tehran IRNA in English 1131 GMT 2 May 86

[Text] London, May 2 IRNA — Prime Minister Hoseyn Musavi said in an interview published here that opposition groups inside Iran could carry on with their activities as long as they did not seek the overthrow the Islamic Republic or take up arms against it.

He also said Iran would not resume foreign borrowing despite the sharp slump in the price of oil. Instead, he said, the government would use the opportunity to move faster towards self-sufficiency.

In an interview with the London-based *ARABIA* magazine (May 1), the Iranian prime minister said the government will "allow the opposition to be active as long as it does not intend to overthrow the Islamic Republic."

"The policy of the government has been to tolerate the opposition. As an example I can refer to the Freedom movement (Party) and other groups which are presently active."

"But as for the U.S. or Soviet-backed splinter groups, who may intend to overthrow the government by armed means, we will treat them without the slightest forgiveness and this is something which we still follow."

Musavi added that because of the government's popular support the opposition forces were "at a disadvantage" and that it was difficult for them to get the support of the masses.

The Iranian prime minister said the steep fall in the price of oil would have its affect on Iran. "But even if the oil prices decline even further, or remain at the present level, we would use this as a lever to speed up our self-sufficiency and (economic) independence."

He also said that Iran was determined not to be attracted to foreign borrowing. Today, Iran does not owe any money to foreign countries and would not borrow from them in the future, he said. "We manage our economy on the basis of that very income" Iran has.

On Iran's policy to "export the Islamic Revolution", Musavi stressed that the real meaning of this was to defend Islam, not to promote subversion in other countries. "At present there are 40 radio stations active against the Islamic Republic of Iran in an attempt to export their culture and beliefs of our country. No one says anything when the U.S. wants to export its culture to our country. But when we speak about Islam and that Muslims should return to Islam they say that we intend to export our revolution. If the export of revolution means that we proclaim the message that the dignity of Muslims depends on their return to Islam then we accept that we export the revolution."

Asked about Iran's "soft criticism" against Moscow, the prime minister said Iran "did not sustain as much damage" from the Soviet Union than from the United States in the last 50 years. "We strongly hold our 'neither East nor west' policy. But it is true that the eastern bloc countries have adopted a more realistic policy than the west vis-a-vis the Islamic Republic of Iran."

He said Iran demanded the withdrawal of the Soviet forces from Afghanistan and as a religious duty, it was "obliged to support" the Afghan people to achieve their objective.

Further Reportage on May Day Events, Speeches

LD011421 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 1 May 86

[Text] In special ceremonies throughout the country today on the occasion of International Labor Day 50 workers' mobilization divisions of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps demonstrated their combat potential.

Our correspondent in Tehran reports that 15 divisions of the mobilization forces from the resistance bases in Tehran's factories, workers centers in Tehran Province, and also several divisons from the mobilization resistance bases in government departments in Tehran Province, held an armed parade in Tehran. Participants praised International Labor Day and proclaimed the increasing readiness of the country's workers to respond to the call of the imam of the Islamic nation to participate in the battlefronts in addition to their presence on the economic fronts. According to this report, the workers participating in these ceremonies, wearing head-bands inscribed with the slogans "We respond to thy summons, O Khomeyni," "O Martyred Husayn!" "War, war until victory!" "Death to the USA, and death to Israel," held a rally in Martyr Shirudi Stadium after marching through the streets.

According to our correspondent, during the ceremonies in Martyr Shirudi Stadium, attended by Hojjat ol-Eslam Karrubi, the imam's representative and head of the martyrs Foundation of the Islamic Revolution, the minister of labor and social affairs, the official in charge of the mobilization of the meek of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps, the head of the Labor Committee of the Islamic Consultative Assembly, other state personalities, and revolutionary Muslim workers from Tehran's factories emphasized the continuation of the war until final victory, and underlined their condemnation of world arrogance and their readiness to go to the battlefronts against the aggressor and to wage struggle in the trench of monotheism and self-sufficiency.

After the workers had sung several songs, the message from Hashemi-Rafsanjani, speaker of the Islamic Consultative Assembly, in connection with International Labor Day, was read by the workers representative to the Majlis. The message, referring to the high valuation of workers in Islam and the new dignity given to work and to workers for the first time by the Islamic revolution, says: At a time when millions of workers are languishing under the overlordship of world arrogance and living through difficult days and nights due to the pressures of arduous work, and when the world's materialist systems have dragged the workers into slavery and turned them into instruments of production, in Islamic Iran the sweat of the workers and toilers, side by side with the blood of the martyrs of the path of freedom and devotion, are pouring into a single channel. The workers, in step with the heroes of the battlefield, are tearing off colonialist

shackles and smashing through the barriers of dependence every day. They have consolidated and strengthened the foundation of independence and the backbone of the Islamic Republic.

The message from the speaker of the Islamic Consultative Assembly, referring to the monumental role of workers on the battlefields, says: Now that the fronts of light against darkness have acquired fresh energy and excitement thanks to the powerful and monolithic presence of the muscle of the revolution. The presence of the workers in all the spheres of cultural, political, social, and military battles is a guarantee of the might of the Islamic Republic and charts the path of the defense of Islam.

The message emphasizes the role of workers in waging struggle agaisnt the economic hegemony of world arrogance. It continues: Iran's warrior Islamic nation fixes its gaze on your creative and inventive hands and awaits the liberation of the country's ailing and captive economy and industry from enslavement by the world-grabbers thanks to your efforts and perseverance.

Our correspondent's report continues: As a continuation of these ceremonies, after the reading of the message of the workers mobilization of the meek mobilization unit of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps, Mr Karrubi, the imam's representative and supervisor of the Martyrs Foundation of the Islamic Revolution, made a speech referring to the tremendous role played by workers in achieving the victory of the Islamic Revolution in the struggle against splinter groups and on the battlefronts against the aggressor enemy. He addressed the workers, the genuine owners and inheritors of the revolution, and said: With your mighty muscle you have so far stood against all difficulties, and, armed with selflessness and self-sacrifice in your diverse struggles, particularly on the warfronts of good against evil, you have proved your loyalty to the revolution and to its leader. And today, when we are going through a sensitive phase in the history of our country, we should not bend our backs under the weight of difficulties. We should stand inflexibly against the enemy and continue our struggle until final victory!

In conclusion, referring to certain difficulties and shortcomings, particularly the difficulties of workers, he said: The country's responsible authorities are aware of your difficulties, dear workers, and of certain discriminations and exploitations which still exist. The authorities know that there are still a number of profiteering opportunists who, at a time when you are giving your blood for the revolution, are striving to further their own interests and to amass riches. Some people, either knowingly or unknowingly, are also protecting them! However, you should not become despondent, because these things are part of the difficulties of a revolution. The struggle waged against the United States and world arrogance entails great difficulties and hardships. In order to solve the difficulties one should pay heed to today's sensitive conditions! However, you may be assured that all responsible officials of the Majlis and the government are working toward removing these difficulties.

In the conclusion of these ceremonies, a 12-point resolution was read. This resolution, the points of which were approved by chants of "God is great" by Tehran's Muslim workers while proclaiming their obedience to the historical behest of the imam of the Islamic nation with regard to an extensive presence of the people on the fronts, expressed their readiness to change production lines to the production of arms and ammunition.

While condemning the plot by world arrogance to reduce the price of oil and the blatant U.S. aggression against the land of our friend and brother, Libya, the resolution called for a grassroots, decisive, revolutionary, Islamic struggle against those amassing riches, the hoarders and mini-satans, to be waged by the Islamic Consultative Assembly, the judiciary, and the government.

In the resolution, the Muslim workers from Tehran's factories, while proclaiming their support for the struggle of the Islamic councils of workers and workers mobilization against the groups, technocrats, and the remnants of Satan, demanded an investigation by the authorities in the Ministry of Housing and Urban Development and the Urban Land Organization of the difficulties of the workers' housing cooperatives and the granting of factory shares to the workers, so that care for the workers will be translated from slogans into action.

Montazeri Comments on Arab Reaction to Libyan Attack

GF281346 Tehran KEYHAN in Persian 17 April 86 p 3

[Atricle: "Ayatollah Montazeri:vArab Countries Should Not Remain Indifferent Toward American Attack on Libya"]

[Text] Qom — Following the brutal attack of the U.S. fighters upon the residential quarters of the Islamic land of Libya and the killing of hundreds of our Libyan Muslim brothers and sisters, Ayatollay Montazeri, before delivering his lecture on religious jurisprudence to his class, expressed his sympathy with the Islamic nation of Libya and offered his condelences.

He then criticized the attack and said: The U.S. attack on Libya is in actual fact an attack on the united Islamic nation. All Muslims, especially those in Arab countries, should not remain indifferent to this crime. He then stressed: Merely verbal condemnation of the United States is not enough; Muslims should take some definite action.

He added: When the basic policy of the United States and the Western countries rests on supporting terrorism and resorting to bloodshed, how can they introduce themselves an anti-terrorists? You know that at the very outset Israel was created by a group of Jewish terrorists, with the support of Britain and the United States, in the land of Palestine. Thousands of Palestinian Muslims were ousted from their homeland or martyred to make room for them. Other examples are the U.S. military attack on Cuba at the Bay of Pigs, and the very small but revolutionary country of Grenada. There is also the financial and military aid given by the United States to the Nicaraguan terrorists. One cannot forget the murders and crimes that the United States committed in Vietnam. However, they were thrown out of Vietnam in a disgraceful defeat. Another example is France, which has accommodated terrorist leaders in its own country and then supports them. It is very surprising that these countries which indulge in terror and terrorism should present themselves as anti-terrorists.

Montazeri continued: All of the Western countries and the countries which have contact with the United States at the government level are participants in this brutal crime. These countries should review their relations with the United States.

You know that the heads of the Persian Gulf countries who met Bush recently and signed secret treaties with him have placed their oil and all other resources at the disposal of the United States. The United States supports Israel with the dollars of these Persian Gulf countries so that Israel may commit any crime it likes in Palestine, Lebanon, and the Arab countries.

Meanwhile, these same Persian Gulf countries support Saddam and send aid to him so that he may continue his crimes a bit longer. If it were not for their aid, Saddam would be nowhere. Heads of the Persian Gulf countries should know that they are partners in all of the crimes committed by the United States, Israel, and Saddam. Wherever the blood of the innocent is spilled by the United States, Israel, and Saddam, or when the United States attacks Libya, the heads of the Persian Gulf states are equally responsible for these crimes. They should, therefore, review their own position before the same fate as that of Mohammad Reza Shah is meted out to them. They should also know that during this present age, the nations are awake and on their way to achieving independence.

Grand Ayatollah Montazeri added: The Islamic nations are dutybound to take serious and basic action against this blatant American attack on the Libyan Islamic nation. In doing so they would be acting against a front of blasphemy. They should know that the world oppressors have established a front against Islamic nations.

Concerning the nonaligned countries, he said: It is no use to become nonaligned in words and slogans only to have friendly relations with the United States and other similar countries. If what they say is from their heart, they should become united in practice against the crimes of the United States. They should severe their relations with the United States just as the revolutionary country of Iran has done. It has cut its relations with the United States, arrested American spies, and thrown them out of the country. The United States could do nothing against us.

Commerce Minister Details 1985 Export Figures

LD271230 Tehran IRNA in English 1000 GMT 27 Apr 86

[Text] Tehran, April 27, IRNA — Iran's exports for the past year (ending March 20) increased by of 98.96 percent in weight and 25.55 percent in value compared to the preceding year, announced Commerce minister Hasan Abedi-Ja'fari during the cabinet session presided over by Prime Minister Husayn Musavi, Sunday morning. He said that by increasing export items and using the existing potentials, the Islamic republic of Iran will be able to boost the volume of its exports by 35 percent.

Meanwhile, the cabinet discussed domestic and foreign issues and ministers of defence and Islamic Revolution's Guards Corps reported on latest developments in war fronts.

Captured Iraqi Troops Brought to Ahvaz

LD012240 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 2030 GMT 1 May 86

[Text] Our correspondent reports the arrival in Ahvaz of a number of deceived Iraqi POW's who were captured in recent operations in the "Val-Fajr-8" operational sector. This group of Iraqi POW's, among whom a number of NCO's and officers may be seen, captured during recent victorious operations by the Islamic forces along the Al-Faw-Basra, and Al-Faw-Umm Qasr axes and by the Salt Lake, arrived in Ahvaz this afternoon after being evacuated behind the fronts.

These Iraqi POW's were driven in 10 vehicles through Ahvaz thoroughfares while chanting "Death to Saddam," "Death to the United States," "God is great," and "Neither East nor West," and were welcomed by the resisting people of Ahvaz.

Mistreatment of POW's Denied

LD302346 Tehran IRNA in English 1736 GMT 30 Apr 86

[Text] Tehran, April 30, IRNA — Head of the War Information Headquarters (WIH) Dr. Kamal Kharrazi Wednesday refuted an Iraqi claim that the Islamic Republic was "mistreating" Iraqi prisoners of war and said that on the contrary it was the Baghdad government which was engaging in such misbehavior with Iranian POWS. He said Iranian authorities have always tried to comply with Iraqi POWS requests that they be allowed to hold classes and have available religious and non-religious magazines. In the course of the 5.1/2-year-old Iraqi imposed war thousands of Iraqi soldiers have been taken captive and kept in several POW camps throughout the country.

Dr. Kharrazi said that according to International Red Cross reports Iraqi officials in charge of POW camps have refused to provide Iranian POWS with even the minimal facilities to perform their religious duties. He said Iraqi jailers have physically assaulted Iranian POWS and subjected them to severest forms of physical and mental torture since their captivity.

Iraqi captors routinely play loud music and screeen pornographic type films for the Iranian prisoners from dawn to dusk as part of their systematic use of psychological torture, the WIH head said.

The Islamic Republic of Iran has repeatedly called on international organizations including the United Nations to investigate the issue of Iraqi mistratment of Iranian POWS.

On the status of Iranians missing in action, Kharrazi said that thousands of the estimated 20,000 MIA'S have so far been identified either by photos or broadcasts beamed to Iraqi mass media. However, he noted, the Baghdad government has so far refused to respond to the issue at all let alone allow Red Cross officials access to them or knowledge of their whereabouts. The most renowned Iranian POW is the former oil minister of the Islamic Republic of Iran, Mohammad Javad Tondgoyan, he said.

The WIH head said although some 400 Iranian POWS were being held in Abu Gharib prison of Iraq, the Baghdad regime denied it.

According to the latest evidence the Baghdad Government has ordered its military forces to kill any Islamic Revolution's Guards taken captive in the war fronts, Kharrazi said.

He added that an International Red Cross report indicated that IRC officials had seen signs of electrical shocks on the body of an Iranian POW, Habib Asakeri, who had been in an isolation cell for seven days.

Reportage on Combat Operations in War With Iraq

Iraqi Communications Switchboard Hit

LD011423 Tehran IRNA in English 1355 GMT 1 May 86

[Text] Ahvaz, May 1, IRNA — Iraqi Troops stationed in southern Iraq lost communication with their command centers after Iranian gunners pounded the central switchboard in the region, military sources said here Thursday. Bombardment of the center came after Iran's Muslim combatants advanced several kilometers around a salt lake in Central Al-Faw Peninsula this week, they said.

"Communication has been lost between various units of the seventh corps, stationed in Al-Faw, with the Army's headquarters and its operational commands" the sources said. The salt lake is several kilometers northwest of the oil port of Al-Faw captured by Muslim combatants in their first 1986 offensive in February.

Sources said lack of communication links has "disordered the organization of the corps and hampered their capacity to maneuver and fight."

For the past several days Iran has been reporting heavy fighting in three axes in peninsula. They are the eastern Al-Faw-Basra, Western Al-Faw-Umm Qasr and the central salt lake.

War started over five years ago when Iraqi troops stormed across the two countries 1,200 km border and captured sections of Iranian soil. Since then Iraq has pulled back under Iranian counterattacks that took combat into Iraqi soil.

Communique No 2,457

LD011714 Tehran IRNA in English 1617 GMT 1 May 86

[Text] Tehran, May 1, IRNA — The war communique Thursday reported the following operations by forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran in war against Iraq's Ba'th troops:

1. I.R.I. planes bomb Iraqi positions in Faqqeh of southern front three times Thursday. All return safely after causing heavy damage.
2. Navy inspects two oil tankers and one cargo ship in Hormuz Strait Wednesday but releases the ships after finding no Iraqi-bound cargo.
3. Sporadic artillery and skirmishes continue in all fronts, but heavier in Sumar of the western front as well as Faqqeh and Majnun Islands of the south.
4. In Faqqeh combat starts early morning Wednesday and continues. Iraqi troops have suffered casualties there.
5. In Sumar Iraqi helicopters fail to transfer troops after coming under Iranian fire.
6. In Nahr-Anbar, Chazzabah, Maymak, and Mandali Iraqi vehicle columns come under shelling and suffered damage.
7. In Qasr-e Shirin of western front one Iraqi patrol unit come under fire and fled.
8. Parts of the city of Abadan suffered damage because of Iraqi artillery shelling.

The war communique is issued by the joint staff command to report on the daily military operations in the war fronts. Thursday's communique was the 2457th issued in the imposed war.

Bombers Inflict 'Considerable Losses'

LD020810 Tehran IRNA in English 0755 GMT 2 May 86

[Text] Tehran, May 2, IRNA — Islamic Republic's fighter bombers Friday pounded enemy troops concentration points and command base in the Faqqeh region, northwest of the border town of Bostan in Iran's Khuzestan Province, according to a military communique published here. The Joint Staff command of the armed forces said in its communique that the attack took place at 05:55 hours local time (02:25 GMT) Friday and that considerable losses were inflicted on the Iraqi forces. It said all the planes returned to their bases safely.